

Animas 30pt Composite Soil Protocols

A thirty point composite soil sample will be collected at each mine location and areas sampled in the floodplain. The composite sample will be made from a 30 cell grid, with one sub-sample coming from each cell. The grid size and shape will be determined in the field by the field team leader. A disposable scoop will be used to collect the sub samples for all cells at each location. The sub-sample will be collected at a depth between 0-4 inches below the surface. There should be a total of 3 liters of sample material (accumulation of sub-samples) per location. Sub-samples will be mixed and sieved after the collection of the 30 sub-samples. The 30 point composite sample will then be sieved using a #4 sieve, to remove particles greater than 2mm. Two samples will be collected from the sieved material: one for total metals (4oz glass jar) and the other for SPLP (8oz glass jar). These samples will be sent to the appropriate analytical analysis location. An additional 8oz (minimum) of the composite sample will be archived for potential acid base accounting. For sites with diverse soil composition, additional 30pt composite samples may be collected under the direction of the field team leader. All decisions regarding additional composite samples, grid size, shape, and design will be documented in a field log book.